

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT O 01993 311339Z

47

ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 ARA-06 NEA-07 SP-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00

INR-05 CIAE-00 IOE-00 /043 W
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P R 311330Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9533

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 1993

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TD, PORG

SUBJECT: TRINIDAD DELEGATION TO THE NO-ALIGNED SUMMIT
AT COLOMBO

REF: STATE 171412

1. PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS INFORMED ME TODAY THAT THE CABINET HAD DECIDED JULY 29 THAT NO CABINET MINISTER COULD BE SPARED TO GO ABROAD BETWEEN NOW AND TRINIDAD'S NATIONAL ELECTIONS. (THE DATE FOR ELECTIONS IS NOT YET SET, BUT MUST BE NO LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 18.) HE SAID THIS MEANT THAT NEITHER HE NOR FOREIGN MINISTER JOSEPH WOULD BE AT THE COLOMBO CONFERENCE, AND IT HAD NOT YET BEEN DECIDED WHO WOULD HEAD THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO DELEGATION.

2. ACCORDING TO THE CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSIONER, THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS HAD RECOMMENDED STRONGLY THAT FOREIGN MINISTER JOSEPH GO TO COLOMBO IF THE PRIME MINISTER COULD NOT GO. MY CANADIAN COLLEAGUE FELT THAT,
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PAGE 02 PORT O 01993 311339Z

IF NO MINISTER WENT, THEN PERMANENT SECRETARY SEIGNORET

IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WOULD GO SINCE THIS WAS THE
RECOMMENDATION OF THE MINISTRY. I AM LESS SURE, AND
TRINIDAD MAY YET BE REPRESENTED ONLY BY ITS HIGH COM-
MISSIONER IN NEW DELHI (LUTCHMAN) WITH NO SENIOR PERSONNEL
TRAVELING FROM HERE. IN ANY CASE, IT IS NOW DEFINITE THAT
THERE WILL BE NO MINISTERIAL REPRESENTATION, WITH THE
RESULT THAT TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO WILL TAKE A VERY LOW
PROFILE AT THE CONFERENCE AND PROBABLY NOT BE VERY
INFLUENTIAL EVEN IN CORRIDOR CONVERSATIONS AT THIS
"HEADS OF GOVERNMENT" MEETING.
RICH

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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